



# Montana Crop & Livestock Reporter

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USDA, NASS, Montana Field Office

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## HIGHLIGHTS:

U.S. Mushroom Sales  
July Milk Production  
Cattle on Feed  
Red Meat Production  
All Cattle & Calves and Beef Cow  
County Estimates  
All Hay County Estimates  
Farm Labor  
July Egg Production  
U.S. & Canadian Cattle

### U.S. Mushroom Sales for 2004-05

Sales of the 2004-05 U.S. mushroom crop are 853 million pounds, virtually unchanged from the 2003-04 season but 1 percent above the 2002-03 season. Value of sales for the 2004-05 U.S. mushroom crop is \$908 million, down 1 percent from the previous season but 2 percent above the 2002-03 season. The number of growers, at 275, is down 3 from last season. The average price is \$1.06 per pound, down 2 cents from 2003-04.

**Agaricus** mushroom sales totaled 838 million pounds, virtually unchanged from both the 2003-04 and 2002-03 seasons. **Fresh market** sales were 696 million pounds, down 1 percent from last season. Processing sales were 142 million pounds, 3 percent above last season. Value of sales for all **Agaricus** mushrooms totaled \$862 million, down 2 percent from the previous season but 1 percent higher than 2002-03. Pennsylvania accounted for 59 percent of the total volume of sales and California contributed 14 percent. **Brown mushrooms**, including Portabello and Crimini varieties, accounted for 101 million pounds, up 4 percent from last season but 9 percent below the 2002-03 crop year. Brown mushrooms accounted for 12 percent of the total **Agaricus** volume sold. The brown mushroom crop value of sales for the 2004-05 season is \$130 million, 15 percent of the total **Agaricus** value.

Value of sales for commercially grown **specialty** mushrooms in 2004-05 is \$46.1 million, up 14 percent from the 2003-04 season. A specialty grower is defined as having at least 200 natural wood logs in production or some commercial indoor growing area. The average price per pound received by growers, at \$3.06, is up 3 cents from the previous season.

Sales of **Shiitake** mushrooms totaled 8.61 million pounds for the 2004-05 season, up 15 percent from the previous season. Price per pound received by growers, at \$3.21, is

down 3 cents from 2003-04. Sales volume of Oyster mushrooms, at 5.11 million pounds, is up 22 percent from the previous season. Price per pound received by growers, at \$2.33, is up 25 cents from the previous season. Sales of exotic mushrooms, other than Shiitake or Oyster, are 1.33 million pounds, down 20 percent from last season. Price per pound received by growers, at \$4.90, is up 41 cents from 2003-04.

Growers sold 35.0 million pounds of mushrooms that were **certified organic** during the 2004-05 growing season, down 1 percent from 2003-04. Out of the 35.0 million pounds, 6.01 million pounds, or 17 percent of the total were sold as certified organic mushrooms, while the rest were sold without the certified organic label. This compares to 8.31 million pounds, or 23 percent sold as certified organic during the 2003-04 crop year. **Agaricus** mushrooms accounted for 74 percent of the mushrooms sold as certified organic, while all specialty mushrooms made up the remainder. These certified organic sales represent 1 percent of the 2004-05 total mushroom sales. The number of certified organic mushroom growers totaled 35, up 4 from the previous season. These growers represent 13 percent of the 275 total mushroom producers.

### U.S. July Milk Production

Milk production in the 23 major States during July totaled 13.7 billion pounds, up 4.2 percent from July 2004. June revised production, at 13.7 billion pounds, was up 5.6 percent from June 2004. The June revision represented an increase of 0.2 percent or 28 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,682 pounds for July, 59 pounds above July 2004. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.14 million head, 48,000 head more than July 2004, and 12,000 head more than June 2005.

### U.S. Cattle on Feed Up 2 Percent

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.1 million head on August 1, 2005. The inventory was 2 percent above August 1, 2004 and 5 percent above August 1, 2003.

Placements in feedlots during July totaled 1.68 million, 2 percent below 2004 and 16 percent below 2003. This is the lowest placements for the month of July since the

series began in 1996. Net placements were 1.62 million. During July, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 400,000, 600-699 pounds were 338,000, 700-799 pounds were 465,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 475,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during July totaled 1.92 million, slightly below 2004 and 16 percent below 2003. This is the lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of July since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 60,000 during July, 3 percent above 2004 but unchanged from 2003.

### July 2005 Red Meat Production

Montana slaughter plants produced 1.5 million pounds, dressed weight, of red meat during July 2005, unchanged from July 2004, but up 23 percent from June 2005. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,700 head, unchanged from one year ago. The average live weight increased 3 pounds to 1,152 pounds.

There were 1,500 hogs slaughtered in Montana during July, down 100 head from a year ago. The average live weight, at 236 pounds, increased 13 pounds from last year. July sheep slaughter totaled 300 head, unchanged from July 2004. The average live weight increased 13 pounds to 124 pounds.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.62 billion pounds in July, down 2 percent from the 3.71 billion pounds produced in July 2004. U.S. beef production, at 2.08 billion pounds, was 1 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.72 million head, down 2 percent from July 2004. The average live weight was up 15 pounds from the previous year, at 1,254 pounds. Veal production totaled 12.4 million pounds, 7 percent below July a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 58,600 head, down 15 percent from July 2004. The average live weight was 26 pounds above last year, at 350 pounds.

U.S. pork production totaled 1.51 billion pounds, down 5 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.66 million head, 5 percent below July 2004. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 264 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 13.5 million pounds, was down 5 percent from July 2004. Sheep slaughter totaled 200,800 head, 9 percent below last year. The average live weight was 134 pounds, up 6 pounds from July a year ago.

# All Cattle and Calves and Beef Cows Inventories by Counties, January 1, 2003-2005

District	All Cattle and Calves				Beef Cows and Heifers That Have Calved			
	2003	2004	2005	Rank	2003	2004	2005	Rank
Deer Lodge	8,900	8,800	8,900	52	6,200	6,200	6,500	53
Flathead	15,000	13,900	11,900	51	6,100	7,300	6,600	51
Granite	21,900	21,000	21,300	41	15,000	15,300	15,800	40
Lake	46,000	46,000	44,000	21	30,300	32,000	30,100	17
Lincoln	3,300	2,800	2,900	55	2,100	2,000	1,800	55
Mineral	1,000	900	700	56	600	500	400	56
Missoula	10,900	8,600	8,700	53	6,800	6,400	6,600	51
Powell	44,000	44,000	41,000	26	28,600	29,900	29,600	18
Ravalli	34,000	35,000	34,000	32	17,900	18,300	18,700	35
Sanders	19,000	18,000	17,600	45	12,400	12,100	12,900	42
Other	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>NORTHWEST</b>	<b>204,000</b>	<b>199,000</b>	<b>191,000</b>	--	<b>126,000</b>	<b>130,000</b>	<b>129,000</b>	--
Blaine	65,000	64,000	67,000	11	40,000	43,000	46,000	6
Chouteau	35,000	34,000	34,000	32	22,100	21,800	23,700	29
Glacier	42,000	41,000	43,000	23	29,600	31,000	32,800	15
Hill	22,500	22,500	21,000	42	15,300	16,000	16,200	39
Liberty	13,500	12,700	12,400	50	8,300	8,700	8,800	50
Phillips	73,000	71,000	69,000	10	46,000	47,000	47,000	5
Pondera	24,300	24,000	23,300	38	15,800	15,900	16,600	38
Teton	52,000	51,000	45,000	20	29,000	34,000	25,200	27
Toole	13,700	13,800	13,300	48	8,900	10,600	9,700	48
Other	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>	<b>341,000</b>	<b>334,000</b>	<b>328,000</b>	--	<b>215,000</b>	<b>228,000</b>	<b>226,000</b>	--
Daniels	16,400	14,600	14,600	47	11,800	11,700	11,900	45
Dawson	46,000	45,000	39,000	28	28,800	28,100	26,200	24
Garfield	63,000	62,000	61,000	12	40,000	39,000	37,000	12
McCone	34,000	33,000	28,000	35	23,100	22,900	20,300	34
Richland	66,000	59,000	56,000	17	30,600	30,300	26,900	21
Roosevelt	31,400	32,400	31,300	34	20,600	22,800	23,500	30
Sheridan	27,200	28,000	24,100	37	16,100	16,200	17,200	37
Valley	84,000	88,000	86,000	5	49,000	57,000	51,000	4
Other	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>NORTHEAST</b>	<b>368,000</b>	<b>362,000</b>	<b>340,000</b>	--	<b>220,000</b>	<b>228,000</b>	<b>214,000</b>	--
Broadwater	18,800	17,300	16,600	46	12,000	11,900	11,400	46
Cascade	69,000	68,000	70,000	9	44,000	44,000	45,000	8
Fergus	98,000	95,000	94,000	3	68,000	67,000	67,000	2
Golden Valley	15,000	13,000	13,200	49	8,700	8,200	8,900	49
Judith Basin	53,000	54,000	58,000	13	30,300	32,000	32,500	16
Lewis & Clark	41,000	40,000	40,000	27	25,000	26,200	26,200	24
Meagher	47,000	48,000	47,000	19	26,200	27,100	27,900	20
Musselshell	37,000	36,600	37,100	29	22,400	22,800	23,000	31
Petroleum	19,200	17,700	18,000	44	12,100	12,800	12,700	43
Wheatland	29,000	26,400	26,100	36	19,300	18,000	17,400	36
Other	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>CENTRAL</b>	<b>427,000</b>	<b>416,000</b>	<b>420,000</b>	--	<b>268,000</b>	<b>270,000</b>	<b>272,000</b>	--
Beaverhead	139,000	133,000	138,000	1	76,000	78,000	79,000	1
Gallatin	54,000	54,000	57,000	15	22,900	22,800	22,700	32
Jefferson	24,000	23,500	22,300	40	14,800	14,800	15,100	41
Madison	73,000	70,000	73,000	8	45,000	45,000	45,000	8
Silver Bow	6,000	5,500	5,700	54	4,300	4,400	4,200	54
Other	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>SOUTHWEST</b>	<b>296,000</b>	<b>286,000</b>	<b>296,000</b>	--	<b>163,000</b>	<b>165,000</b>	<b>166,000</b>	--
Big Horn	89,000	87,000	90,000	4	55,000	58,000	56,000	3
Carbon	55,000	56,000	57,000	15	28,700	29,600	26,600	23
Park	41,000	42,000	42,000	24	25,900	26,000	26,700	22
Stillwater	48,000	49,000	44,000	21	26,500	28,500	24,200	28
Sweetgrass	41,000	40,000	36,000	30	26,900	27,000	25,300	26
Treasure	25,000	23,000	23,000	39	10,000	9,900	10,200	47
Yellowstone	130,000	128,000	120,000	2	35,000	40,000	34,000	14
Other	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>	<b>429,000</b>	<b>425,000</b>	<b>412,000</b>	--	<b>208,000</b>	<b>219,000</b>	<b>203,000</b>	--
Carter	57,000	53,000	53,000	18	38,000	36,000	36,000	13
Custer	89,000	84,000	74,000	7	47,000	46,000	39,000	11
Fallon	43,000	45,000	42,000	24	26,500	29,000	28,000	19
Powder River	61,000	62,000	58,000	13	39,000	41,000	40,000	10
Prairie	35,000	35,000	36,000	30	19,500	20,500	21,000	33
Rosebud	78,000	78,000	81,000	6	49,000	47,000	46,000	6
Wibaux	22,000	21,000	19,000	43	13,000	12,500	12,000	44
Other	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>	<b>385,000</b>	<b>378,000</b>	<b>363,000</b>	--	<b>232,000</b>	<b>232,000</b>	<b>222,000</b>	--
<b>MONTANA</b>	<b>2,450,000</b>	<b>2,400,000</b>	<b>2,350,000</b>	--	<b>1,432,000</b>	<b>1,472,000</b>	<b>1,432,000</b>	--

# All Hay Acreage, Yield, and Production by Counties and Districts, 2004

County and District	ALL				IRRIGATED			NON-IRRIGATED		
	Harvested 1/	Yield	Production		Harvested 1/	Yield	Production	Harvested 1/	Yield	Production
	Acres	Tons	Tons	Rank	Acres	Tons	Tons	Acres	Tons	Tons
Deer Lodge	13,500	2.22	30,000	43	13,500	2.22	30,000	--	--	--
Flathead	44,000	2.64	116,000	17	20,200	3.54	71,500	23,800	1.87	44,500
Granite	30,000	2.38	71,400	27	29,300	2.39	70,000	700	2.00	1,400
Lake	52,000	2.74	142,500	10	40,000	3.23	129,000	12,000	1.13	13,500
Lincoln	8,000	2.10	16,800	53	4,400	2.75	12,100	3,600	1.31	4,700
Mineral	3,000	1.33	4,000	56	800	2.50	2,000	2,200	0.91	2,000
Missoula	21,500	2.50	53,800	35	15,500	2.93	45,400	6,000	1.40	8,400
Powell	54,000	2.18	117,600	15	51,500	2.23	115,000	2,500	1.04	2,600
Ravalli	43,000	3.14	135,000	12	43,000	3.14	135,000	--	--	--
Sanders	29,000	1.65	47,900	38	14,800	2.09	31,000	14,200	1.19	16,900
Other	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>NORTHWEST</b>	<b>298,000</b>	<b>2.47</b>	<b>735,000</b>	--	<b>233,000</b>	<b>2.75</b>	<b>641,000</b>	<b>65,000</b>	<b>1.45</b>	<b>94,000</b>
Blaine	80,000	2.33	186,500	6	41,100	3.24	133,000	38,900	1.38	53,500
Chouteau	39,800	1.71	67,900	28	10,300	3.24	33,400	29,500	1.17	34,500
Glacier	46,000	1.50	69,100	29	11,000	2.83	31,100	35,000	1.09	38,000
Hill	19,200	1.43	27,400	44	2,000	2.70	5,400	17,200	1.28	22,000
Liberty	15,500	1.63	25,200	47	5,000	2.20	11,000	10,500	1.35	14,200
Phillips	74,000	1.86	138,000	11	36,500	2.37	86,500	37,500	1.37	51,500
Pondera	33,500	2.31	77,400	26	16,100	3.66	58,900	17,400	1.06	18,500
Teton	71,500	2.92	208,800	3	53,500	3.46	185,000	18,000	1.32	23,800
Toole	28,500	1.25	35,700	41	4,500	3.27	14,700	24,000	0.88	21,000
Other	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>	<b>408,000</b>	<b>2.05</b>	<b>836,000</b>	--	<b>180,000</b>	<b>3.11</b>	<b>559,000</b>	<b>228,000</b>	<b>1.21</b>	<b>277,000</b>
Daniels	37,300	1.70	63,400	36	500	3.80	1,900	36,800	1.67	61,500
Dawson	55,700	1.06	58,900	32	7,000	3.63	25,400	48,700	0.69	33,500
Garfield	62,200	0.83	51,400	34	3,500	1.54	5,400	58,700	0.78	46,000
McCone	41,300	1.36	56,000	37	5,000	3.10	15,500	36,300	1.12	40,500
Richland	60,000	1.78	107,000	20	16,000	4.06	65,000	44,000	0.95	42,000
Roosevelt	85,000	1.55	132,000	13	11,000	2.77	30,500	74,000	1.37	101,500
Sheridan	57,500	1.38	79,300	25	3,500	3.23	11,300	54,000	1.26	68,000
Valley	91,000	2.21	201,000	4	34,500	3.59	124,000	56,500	1.36	77,000
Other	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>NORTHEAST</b>	<b>490,000</b>	<b>1.53</b>	<b>749,000</b>	--	<b>81,000</b>	<b>3.44</b>	<b>279,000</b>	<b>409,000</b>	<b>1.15</b>	<b>470,000</b>
Broadwater	33,000	3.29	108,600	19	29,200	3.53	103,000	3,800	1.47	5,600
Cascade	88,000	1.67	146,700	9	18,600	3.67	68,200	69,400	1.13	78,500
Fergus	178,500	1.10	196,400	5	16,200	1.67	27,000	162,300	1.04	169,400
Golden Valley	15,000	1.17	17,500	52	7,200	1.81	13,000	7,800	0.58	4,500
Judith Basin	78,000	1.24	97,100	23	11,200	3.00	33,600	66,800	0.95	63,500
Lewis & Clark	45,000	2.61	117,400	16	38,000	2.88	109,500	7,000	1.13	7,900
Meagher	56,000	2.18	121,900	14	45,000	2.43	109,500	11,000	1.13	12,400
Musselshell	23,000	1.36	31,300	42	10,200	2.30	23,500	12,800	0.61	7,800
Petroleum	14,500	1.25	18,100	51	5,000	2.04	10,200	9,500	0.83	7,900
Wheatland	36,000	1.47	53,000	33	17,400	2.10	36,500	18,600	0.89	16,500
Other	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>CENTRAL</b>	<b>567,000</b>	<b>1.60</b>	<b>908,000</b>	--	<b>198,000</b>	<b>2.70</b>	<b>534,000</b>	<b>369,000</b>	<b>1.01</b>	<b>374,000</b>
Beaverhead	97,500	2.15	210,000	2	94,500	2.18	206,000	3,000	1.33	4,000
Gallatin	67,000	3.38	226,200	1	52,000	3.89	202,500	15,000	1.58	23,700
Jefferson	19,000	2.48	47,200	39	17,500	2.60	45,500	1,500	1.13	1,700
Madison	61,000	2.75	167,600	7	58,000	2.80	162,500	3,000	1.70	5,100
Silver Bow	6,500	2.15	14,000	54	5,000	2.70	13,500	1,500	0.33	500
Other	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>SOUTHWEST</b>	<b>251,000</b>	<b>2.65</b>	<b>665,000</b>	--	<b>227,000</b>	<b>2.78</b>	<b>630,000</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>1.46</b>	<b>35,000</b>
Big Horn	55,000	1.81	99,700	22	17,800	3.49	62,200	37,200	1.01	37,500
Carbon	42,000	2.53	106,300	21	37,000	2.74	101,500	5,000	0.96	4,800
Park	66,000	2.28	150,600	8	57,000	2.44	139,000	9,000	1.29	11,600
Stillwater	33,500	1.33	44,400	40	12,900	2.59	33,400	20,600	0.53	11,000
Sweetgrass	38,500	1.76	67,600	30	28,300	2.17	61,500	10,200	0.60	6,100
Treasure	9,000	2.63	23,700	49	5,000	4.38	21,900	4,000	0.45	1,800
Yellowstone	50,000	2.17	108,700	18	24,000	3.81	91,500	26,000	0.66	17,200
Other	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>	<b>294,000</b>	<b>2.04</b>	<b>601,000</b>	--	<b>182,000</b>	<b>2.81</b>	<b>511,000</b>	<b>112,000</b>	<b>0.80</b>	<b>90,000</b>
Carter	33,500	0.70	23,500	50	1,000	2.30	2,300	32,500	0.65	21,200
Custer	36,000	2.35	84,500	24	18,500	3.79	70,200	17,500	0.82	14,300
Fallon	29,200	0.87	25,300	46	1,000	1.00	1,000	28,200	0.86	24,300
Powder River	25,000	1.09	27,300	45	10,000	1.79	17,900	15,000	0.63	9,400
Prairie	17,300	1.62	28,100	47	5,300	3.49	18,500	12,000	0.80	9,600
Rosebud	30,000	2.16	64,700	31	15,200	3.63	55,100	14,800	0.65	9,600
Wibaux	21,000	0.60	12,600	55	--	--	--	21,000	0.60	12,600
Other	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>	<b>192,000</b>	<b>1.39</b>	<b>266,000</b>	--	<b>51,000</b>	<b>3.24</b>	<b>165,000</b>	<b>141,000</b>	<b>0.72</b>	<b>101,000</b>
<b>MONTANA</b>	<b>2,500,000</b>	<b>1.90</b>	<b>4,760,000</b>	--	<b>1,152,000</b>	<b>2.88</b>	<b>3,319,000</b>	<b>1,348,000</b>	<b>1.07</b>	<b>1,441,000</b>

1/ Counties with less than 500 acres harvested or individual operations with more than 60 percent of acres harvested are combined into "other" counties to avoid disclosure of individual information.

## Hired Workers Up 2 Percent, Wage Rates Up 4 Percent From a Year Ago

There were 1,332,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of July 10-16, 2005, up 2 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 930,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 402,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$9.39 per hour during the July 2005 reference week, up 35 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.62 per hour, up 28 cents from last July, while livestock workers earned \$9.25 per hour compared with \$8.74 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$8.78 per hour, was up 35 cents from last year.

The number of hours worked averaged 40.6 hours for hired workers during the survey week, up 4 percent from a year ago.

The largest decreases in the number of hired farm workers from last year occurred in California, and in the Appalachian I (North Carolina and Virginia), Appalachian II (Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia), Delta (Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi), Southern Plains (Oklahoma and Texas), and Mountain I (Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming) regions. In California, the cool, wet spring caused considerable delays in planting and slowed development of most field and vegetable crops. The slow start to the growing season continued to keep crop progress behind normal through early July, reducing the need for hired workers. Moderate to heavy rainfall from Hurricane Dennis hampered fieldwork in both Appalachian regions, greatly decreasing the demand for hired workers. In the Delta region, the hot, dry weather in Arkansas was more than offset by the rain and wet conditions in Louisiana and Mississippi, causing the overall demand for workers in the region to decline. In the Southern Plains region, season-long dry conditions over much of Texas severely curtailed hay growth and production. With less hay acreage for harvest, fewer workers were needed. The cool, wet spring in the Mountain I region delayed crop development. Field

activities that normally would have been ongoing during the reference week were pushed back due to the slow growth. Therefore, hired worker demand was lower.

The largest increases in the number of hired farm workers from a year ago were in the Corn Belt II (Iowa and Missouri), Lake (Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin), Northern Plains (Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota), and Corn Belt I (Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio) regions. Persistent dryness in the Corn Belt II region caused pasture condition to deteriorate, necessitating more supplemental feeding and increasing the need for livestock workers. The dry conditions led to greater insect pressure on developing crops, resulting in more pesticide applications, which also raised the demand for hired workers. Warm, dry weather in the Lake and Northern Plains regions allowed field activities to progress rapidly, causing more hired workers to be needed. Despite hurricane moisture in the eastern half of the Corn Belt I region, dry conditions quickly returned, causing increased insect pressure in corn and soybeans. Therefore, more workers were needed for pesticide spraying.

Hired farm worker wage rates were generally above a year ago in most regions. The largest increases occurred in the Northeast II (Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania), Corn Belt II, Southern Plains, Mountain I, and Appalachian II regions. The higher wages in the Northeast II region were due to a smaller percentage of part time workers in the work force. In the Corn Belt II region, wages were up due to a higher percentage of skilled workers needed for crop spraying. Wages in the Southern Plains, Mountain I, and Appalachian II regions were higher because of more salaried workers putting in fewer hours, which pushed their hourly wage higher. Also, the Southern Plains and Appalachian II regions had fewer part time workers as a percent of the total.

### July Egg Production Up Slightly

U.S. egg production totaled 7.56 billion during July 2005, up slightly from last year. Production included 6.44 billion table eggs, and 1.12 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.06 billion were broiler-type and 62 million were egg-type. The total

number of layers during July 2005 averaged 340 million, down 1 percent from a year earlier. July egg production per 100 layers was 2,222 eggs, up 1 percent from July 2004.

All layers in the U.S. on August 1, 2005, totaled 340 million, down 1 percent from a year ago. The 340 million layers consisted of 282 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 55.9 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.63 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on August 1, 2005, averaged 71.0 eggs per 100 layers, same as a year ago.

Egg-type chicks hatched during July 2005 totaled 35.3 million, up 1 percent from July 2004. Eggs in incubators totaled 35.3 million on August 1, 2005, up 12 percent from a year ago. Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 242,000 during July 2005, up 9 percent from July 2004.

Broiler-type chicks hatched during July 2005 totaled 808 million, up slightly from July 2004. Eggs in incubators totaled 663 million on July 1, 2005, down slightly from a year earlier. Leading breeders placed 6.66 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during July 2005, down slightly from July 2004.

### July 1, 2005, U.S. and Canadian Cattle Inventory Up 1 Percent

All cattle and calves in the U.S. and Canada combined totaled 121.8 million head on July 1, 2005, up 1 percent from a year ago. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 49.4 million head, was up 1 percent from a year ago.

All cattle and calves in the United States as of July 1, 2005 totaled 104.5 million head, 1 percent above the 103.6 million on July 1, 2004 and 1 percent above the 103.9 million two years ago.

All cattle and calves in Canada as of July 1, 2005, totaled 17.3 million head, up 3 percent from the 16.8 million on July 1, 2004, and 10 percent above the 15.7 million two years ago. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 6.6 million, was up 2 percent from the 6.4 million on July 1, 2004, and 10 percent above the 6.0 million from two years ago.

### COMING IN NEXT REPORTER

Milk Cow County Estimates	Barley Utilized for Malt
All Sheep and Lambs County Estimates	
Ag Prices Received	
Wheat and Barley Movement	

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